

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA

August 10, 2010

Forty years ago, Ruben Salazar—a Los Angeles Times columnist and KMEX-TV news director—was killed by a Sheriff's Deputy in East Los Angeles while covering the Chicano Moratorium, a huge anti-Vietnam War rally. Since then, other law enforcement agencies including the FBI and the Los Angeles Police Department have released records related to Salazar's death. However, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has not.

While I am sympathetic to the Sheriff's budget constraints, the documents and records surrounding Ruben's death are of enormous historical significance to researchers, scholars, the public at large, and especially the Mexican-American community.

Salazar's death is a symbol of a time when there was deep distrust between the Mexican-American community, particularly in East Los Angeles, and the Sheriff's Department. This wound will never fully heal until details surrounding Ruben Salazar's death come to light and dispel any remaining distrust.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT County Counsel prepare a report back to this Board detailing the legal justification for why or why not these documents can be released to the public, and direct the Sheriff to report back to this Board on the costs associated with fulfilling this document request. Both reports shall be submitted in one week.

MOTION

Ridley-Thomas _____

Yaroslavsky _____

Knabe _____

Antonovich _____

Molina _____